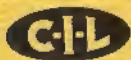


AN ILLUSTRATED HANDBOOK



Price: \$2.00

NOTES ON CANADIAN SHOTSHELLS

Dominion Cartridge Company - Canadian Industries Limited

For the collector of Canadian cartridges, possibly no specialty line can provide the challenge and the reward of research that the DOMINION series of shotshells offers. In continuous production for nearly eighty years, the series is a large one having numerous types and varieties which are hard to find and a few which are rare. Although the history of the Dominion Cartridge Co. is well known, having been recorded in a number of articles, information concerning the products in the early years is extremely difficult to locate. This is in part due to a fire in 1920 which destroyed all company records and large quantities of ammunition. Another factor is that the company did little advertising and issued few catalogs. This, coupled with the current collector interest in this series prompted us to gather and assemble under one cover a check-list of headstamps and color varieties along with photographs, illustrations and other pertinent material in chronological order.

As we regard this booklet as a starting point for further research, we are eager to correspond with interested collectors to exchange information and to receive comments and suggestions to enable us to continue this project. Information of any kind pertaining to D.C.Co.-CIL shotshells, catalogs, boxes, prices lists, etc., will be most welcome. We believe this booklet to be the first and most complete listing of D.C.Co.-CIL shotshells which contains hitherto unpublished material. Being our first attempt at compiling a book we are aware that errors can crop up. We invite corrections, opinions, and constructive criticism.

While our own collections enabled us to form the basic content for this booklet, we were helped by a number of interested "DOMINION" enthusiasts. We are particularly grateful to the following persons and wish to acknowledge their co-operation and encouragement. Many sincere thanks to: J.W. Houlden, Technical Engineer with CIL; Emil Ensminger, Ken Burningham, Jim Ratter and many others too numerous to mention.

Illustrations and line drawings by Nick Krevosheia.

For convenience the subject matter is divided into four groups and the items in each group are arranged according to the period of manufacture wherever known. The four groups are:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1- DOMESTIC | 2 - EXPORT |
| 3- CONTRACT | 4 - MISCELLANEOUS |

Nick Krevosheia
10213-92 St.,
Edmonton, Alberta

A.M. (Mac) Provick,
Hazelcliffe, Saskatchewan

- A CENTENNIAL PROJECT -

Copyright applied for.

D.C.Co. - CIL CHRONOLOGY

- 1886-1907? - Beaver in oval trademark. Rimfires had red labels, centerfires had green. Early labels illustrated type of firearm chambered cartridge and had Montreal, N.A. in address. Later ones illustrated cartridge and had Montreal, Canada in address. D.C.Co. headstamp appeared on centerfires before 1899.
- 1892? - First smokeless shotshell introduced, the VULCAN.
- 1907? - DOMINION already in shotshell headstamps. Intertwined shotshell and cartridge in D in diamond emblem on red and white labels on both rimfires and centerfires.
- 1910 - D.C.Co. became part of newly formed Canadian Explosives Ltd. Centerfire rifle cartridges packed in two-piece flat-pack boxes with lift-off lids.
- 1915-19 - Shotshells manufactured at St. Henri, Quebec.
- 1915 - Smokeless shotshells loaded with No. 3B primer. No. 3A primer discontinued.
- 1916 - First catalog, No. 15, issued.
- 1917 - Curtis & Harvey's Rigaud, Que. plant destroyed by fire; accounts transferred to OXL.
- 1919 - .410 gauge shotshells introduced.
- 1920 - Fire destroyed portion of Brownsburg plant, including records, ammunition and loading facilities. All brass shells in 10, 12 and 16 gauges discontinued.
- 1927 - D.C.Co. became Dominion Ammunition Division of newly organized Canadian Industries Limited. Label color changed to yellow and blue still using the D in diamond emblem, gradually changing to the oval. DOMINION MADE IN CANADA added to shotshell headstamps. DUCO waterproofing introduced. FALCON brand removed from market.
- 1929 - SUPER CLEAN priming introduced, primers nickelled to identify this priming. Exports to South America began.
- 1930 - All brass .410 gauge shells discontinued. Flat battery pocket discontinued in favor of sturdier rolled type.
- 1932 - 10 gauge 2-7/8" shell introduced.
- 1935 - MAXUM brand introduced.
- 1938 - Black powder loadings discontinued. HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY shells discontinued. IMPERIAL 3" shell introduced.
- 1939-45 - War production relegates sporting ammunition. Some shotshells made in this period lack DUCO finish, in natural color paper. Many unusual varieties made as a result of various shortages. Long obsolete headstamps revived as new tools were not available.
- 1947 - INDUSTRIAL 8 gauge shell introduced.
- 1950 - 10 gauge 2-7/8" shell discontinued.
- 1954 - Dupont connection severed. Changeover to present headstamps began.

SYMBOLS USED :

R - Red

BR - Brown

G - Green

BLU - Blue

Y - Yellow

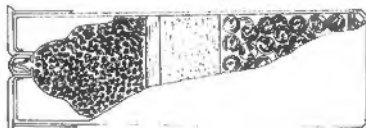
P - Purple

O - Orange

N - Natural-paper not colored prior to finishing in DUCCO.

I - Imprint, an impression integral with the headstamp around the primer simulating a battery primer.

BP - Battery primer



a - Cross section of early D.C.Co., VULCAN & TRAP type of case showing light construction.

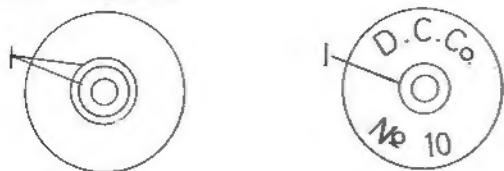
b - Cross section of smokeless powder shells such as SOVEREIGN & CANUCK introduced in 1915 and using battery primers. Cannelures of various designs were used to re-inforce the brass and after 1915 a steel disc was inserted in the head to further re-inforce the case.

Smokeless powders used included Hazard, Empire and Dupont bulk; Ballistite, Infallible, Smokeless Diamond and Oval dense powders. The black powder used in CROWN shells was D.C.Co.'s own "Snap Shot". Some re-ground war-surplus cannon powder, called Dupont Gray was used in the depression years.



Early D.C.Co. packing slip promoting forest fire prevention.

D 1 D.C.Co.



These non-branded shells are generally thought to be D.C.Co.'s first venture into the production of paper cased shotshells, although there are no records extant to confirm this. All shells examined were 10 gauge with either a single or a double imprint. Date of introduction somewhere between 1886-92. To be regarded as scarce. There are rumours of a 12 gauge and of a black colored shell but we cannot corroborate this.

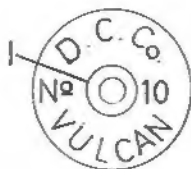


A 1907 advertisement showing in the trademark that DOMINION had replaced D.C.Co. in the headstamp.

D 2 VULCAN



Rare VULCAN box in CIL reference library.



VULCAN is thought to have been D.C.Co.'s first branded shell and appeared about 1892. These green colored shells are found in 10 and 12 gauges. They were available as primed empties and as loaded shells. They were loaded with Hazard's bulk smokeless powder. Generally regarded as scarce.



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Typical topwads from D.C.Co., VULCAN & TRAP shells.
Black print on white wads.

D 3 TRAP

Of lighter construction than VULCAN, TRAP likely appeared on the market about the same time and sold slightly cheaper. All known specimens have brown colored paper cases and appear in 10, 12 and 16 gauges. Headstamps have both single and double imprints. Sold as primed empties in boxes of 100 and as loaded shells in boxes of 25. Survival rate has been adequate with the 16 gauge being the scarcest and the 10 gauge the most common. Generally thought to have been introduced shortly after D1 and discontinued before 1910.



This type of box gives the company address as Montreal, Canada, N.A.; a similar box for loaded shells omits the "N.A.".

D 4 EMPIRE

This rare shell has been the object of many rumors and of much controversy as to its actual existence and origin. A British made shell with "EMPIRE" printed on the case wall has often been thought to be the shell in question. During the summer of 1965 a fired EMPIRE was discovered and the accompanying photograph of the headstamp shows it to be of D.C.Co. manufacture.

The green colored EMPIRE appears to be identical to the SOVEREIGN except that it has no battery pocket. This shell could have been the prototype of the SOVEREIGN and was likely the second smokeless powder shell marketed by D.C.Co.; likely after VULCAN. Only one EMPIRE shell is known to exist at the time of writing.



D 5 SOVEREIGN

SOVEREIGN was introduced in the 1892-1900 period. There are numerous topwad and headstamp variations. These green colored shells were available as loaded shells and as primed empties. Originally SOVEREIGNS were primed with the No. 3A primer which was replaced by the No. 3B in 1916. Loaded with shot sizes from No. 1 to No. 10, BB, 4A, SSG and ball. One ball load was noted with a plain topwad instead of the usual greased felt wad.



D 5 a - G - 16, 20



D 5 a



D 5 b

Sample topwads; green with black print.

D 5 b - G - 10, 12, 16, 20

D 6 CROWN



(a)



(b)



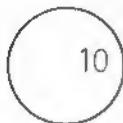
(c)

Introduced about 1900 and listed until 1935, the CROWN has been in circulation long enough to produce an extensive series providing a challenge to the collector. The CROWN was strictly a black powder loading, of light construction and with or without a case cannellure. It was primed with a No.2 primer and was loaded in a variety of shot sizes (from No.10 to 1-1/8 oz. ball) and also available as a primed empty.

D 6 a - with & without imprint. R - 10,12,16,20

D 6 b - R - 10,12,16,20
Y - 12

D 6 c - with & without imprint. O - 20



(d)



(e)



(f)



(g)

CROWN topwads:

- (d) -white with black print.
- (e) -green or white with black print.

Topwad (f) with brass reinforce (g) combined with headstamp (c) produce a most unusual loading, in that the FF represents a U.S. buckshot size.

D 7 REGAL



REGAL box, Enslinger collection.

Date of introduction of the REGAL brand is unknown, but it would have been well before World War I. Intended for dense smokeless powders like Ballistite and Infallible, it was available in a wide range of loads and shot sizes and as a primed empty. Primed with a No.3B primer, these shells were made in 12,16 and 20 gauges, usually orange colored but with a yellow variation noted. Now uncommon.

D 8 IMPERIAL



a

12 ga. P



b

12 ga. R,P,N

16 ga. P

20 ga. R,Y,N



c

12 ga. R,P,N

16 ga. P

20 ga. R,Y,N



d

12 ga. R,P

16 ga. P

20 ga. Y

28 ga. O,Y



e

.410 P

The date of introduction of the IMPERIAL is unknown but it must have closely followed the VULCAN and the TRAP. Advertisements dated 1907 show headstamp D8b. There is also an assortment of case lengths and brass heights. Headstamp D8a was reported from a sectioned dummy.

This popular shell has been loaded with both bulk and dense smokeless powders and seems to have been D.C.Co.'s first heavy load shell. IMPERIALs have appeared with three, four and six cannellures. D8b has the highest brass of all (7/8") and has six cannellures. It is of interest to note that an old D.C.Co. catalog mentions that there are 142 operations in the manufacture of an IMPERIAL shell.

The original color was red with the exception of D8a, then purple until the paper shortage of WWI, back to red and to purple again about 1930.

The 3" shell appeared in 1938 and was natural in color. The red version was made after WWI. There were also some slight differences in the case wall print.

The D.C.Co. No.20 catalog lists a 12 gauge trap load; a 2-3/4" shell loaded with 3 drams equivalent of Dupont powder behind 1 1/2 oz. of No.7 1/2 shot. Game loads in 12 gauge were offered in shot sizes from No.1 to No.7 1/2, BB, AA, AAA, AAAA SSG.

The IMPERIAL was a popular export brand as evidenced by its inclusion in Spanish language catalogs of the 1930-1948 period. Listed in gauges 12, 16, 20 and loaded with Smokeless Diamond and Oval powders.

Dummy shells in .410 gauge with headstamp D8d have been made. They are easily identified because the paper tube is rolled inside out showing the color on one half only and having the word "DUMMY" printed in black on the case wall. These dummy shells lack a battery pocket indentation.



(f)



(g)



(h)

Sample topwads of IMPERIAL shells.
Usual green wad with black print.



D8b brass

(1)



A 28 gauge box intended for export. Has wax paper lining and Spanish print on one end.

D 9 CANUCK



(a)

R-10,12,16,20,28 ga.



(b)

R-10,12,16,20,24,28,32,410
C-20
N-12(tracer),20,28
Y-28



(c)

R-12,16
C-10
Y-20,28

The red colored CANUCK was introduced in 1916. It is of medium high base type with a steel re-inforced head. CANUCK is primed with a No.3B primer and loaded with both bulk and dense smokeless powders in two case lengths-2-5/8" and 2-3/4" in 12 gauge. Originally in 12 gauge, other popular and not too popular gauges were added to make the most complete branded line put out by CIL. Four color variations have been noted besides the familiar red. The CIL collection includes a one-lot production of the CANUCK shell made with a British-made slippery purple paper. Little variation is found in brass height and case cannellures.

Tracer shells intended for trap shooting were introduced c.1931. The tracer compound was made by Imperial Chemical Industries of England. The case was natural in color with black print. Like IMPERIAL the CANUCK was a popular export shell in gauges 12,16,20 and 28. It was loaded with Smokeless Diamond and Dupont powders. Dummy shells in gauges 12,16 and 20 with headstamp D9c have been made. Their construction is identical to that described for IMPERIAL.

DOMINION

Tracer

PATENTS
APPLIED FOR

Sample of case wall print on
tracer shell. Made in 12 & 20.



This is a regular METEOR
box re-labeled CANUCK.
From Provick collection.

DOMINION

New Crimp

SKREET LOAD
No. 9 SHOT



Sample of case wall print
on shells with the new
"pie crimp" introduced in
1938. The same print
also included shells
marked Trap Load No. 7½,
8 & 9.

A variety of CANUCK boxes in
the Ensinger collection.



(d)



(e)



(f)



(g)

Top wad samples.

Spread Shot

"Spread Shot" loads are especially designed for brush shooting at close range, giving an open and uniform pattern at ranges from 15 to 20 yards when used in choke guns. Sportsmen who have missed or mutilated game at close range will appreciate the value of the "Spread Shot" shell. Loaded in 12, 16 and 20 gauges."

The above quotation is taken from a D.C.Co. No. 20 catalog describing the unique "Spread Shot" shell. This shell was loaded in the conventional manner insofar as the powder and the felt wads were concerned. Then a small amount of shot was loaded followed by a thin card wad, then more shot and another wad. When loaded the shot was sandwiched between several card wads which produced a wide pattern when fired from a choked gun. These shells are virtually unknown to collectors. These shells were first listed in the No. 19 catalog of about 1930 and last listed in the No. 22 catalog of 1948.

D 10 EMPTY



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

The EMPTY series started out in the World War 1 period or shortly after and was last listed in catalog No.22(1948). Apparently the earliest were merely the green SOVEREIGN cases with the EMPTY headstamp and battery primer. All others noted were red except a 20 gauge with a yellow case with headstamp D100. For cannellure types see under EXPORT. All but #D100s were primed with a No. 2 primer. CIL catalog No.20 lists EMPTY for smokeless powders in gauges 10,12,16,20 and 28. Black powder gauges 12,16 and 20. D100s in red in 12 gauge has been found loaded as a blank. This is not an easy series to complete, especially D100s with the green case.



100-pack EMPTY box,
natural-red print.
(Universal box used
for any primed
empty shells).

D 11 FALCON



Introduced about 1918, the FALCON was described as a "reliable medium price shell". It was made only in 12 gauge, red colored, No.2 primer and loaded with Dupont No.2 smokeless powder. Range of shot sizes available was No.1 to 7 1/2 and a one ounce ball. Headstamps are found both with and without imprint. The case construction appears similar to the EMPTY brand. The rarity of this brand can largely be attributed to the removal from the market and destruction of all stocks in 1927. This step was prompted by numerous complaints of case-head failures due to the very light construction. FALCON was replaced by a new brand, METEOR.

It is more generous

to tell the secret of bagging game than it is to give away the game. Don't keep Dominion ammunition a secret for yourself.

You bag your game with Dominion cartridges, because they contain the finest materials, and are the most carefully made and tested cartridges in the world.

For all makes of arms, Costs compared to credit less than they pay for ammunition. Our guarantee puts all risk on the Dominion Cartridge Co., Ltd., Montreal.

DOMINION AMMUNITION

A 1908 advertisement.

D 12 METEOR



(a)



(b)

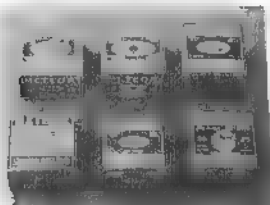


(c)



Sample topwad

Introduced about 1929, the METEOR was described as a standard low-priced shell, and initially loaded with regular smokeless powders. Although in the 1930's these shells were loaded with a re-ground surplus cannon powder called "Dupont Grey". Red-colored in gauges 12 and 16 and yellow-colored in 20 gauge, METEOR was first offered in 12 gauge only in a wide range of shot sizes and a ball loading. METEOR was, besides a domestic shell, the most important of the export shells sold to South America, especially in 16 gauge. D12a is shown in a Spanish language catalog with no gauges or shot sizes given. This brand was registered as a brand in May 16th, 1931.



Six different METEOR boxes in the
Emil Ensinger collection.

CANADIANA

ANTIQUES

Particularly interested in Canadian
shotshells and other Canadian
made or marked firearms—line collectors—
antiques and pioneer relics—pressed
glass—rare art glass—bottles—lamps—
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invited and visitors always welcome.
Phone—terrace 306 745-23,5

A. M. PROVICK
HAZELCLIFFE, BASK.

D 13 EXPORT



(a)



(b)

The EXPORT was first listed in CIL catalog No.18, and was last listed in No.21 catalog(c.1938). The case appears to be the same as the EMPTY and identical brass has been noted. The No. 2 primer was used and "Dupont Grey" powder. This brand was described in CIL catalogs as "a good shell for those who wish to shoot smokeless at the cost of black". It was originally intended for the export market but became popular at home. It was made in 12,16,20 and 28 gauges and in shot sizes No.1 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, BB,AA and SSG. 12,16 and 28 gauges-Red 20 gauge - Natural, Yellow and Orange



The black powder shells have a corrugated re-inforcing while the smokeless shells have a single cannellure.

D 14 MAXUM



DOMINION
MAXUM
LONG RANGE

MAXUM
LONG RANGE

The red colored MAXUM was introduced in 1935 and was intended to fill the gap between the CANUCK and the IMPERIAL. Made in 12 gauge only and loaded with shot sizes No.1 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$, AA, BB and SSG.

This is an entirely new shell having undergone no transitional changes save the crimp. Having high brass, steel re-inforced head, "Super Clean" priming and waterproofed with DUCO. MAXUM was registered as a brand on May 12th, 1935.





Nine attractive shotshell boxes in the Canadian Industries Limited museum.

EXPORT BRANDS

E 1 COLONIAL



Sample topwad

Primarily intended for the Newfoundland market but some were exported to South America. Regarded as scarce. Brass is corrugated like the EMPTY.

R-12,16
Y-20 (CIL collection)

E 2 OLD COLONY



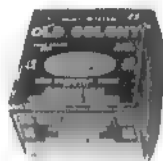
(a)



(b)



(c)



A black powder brand intended mainly for export to the British Honduras. Enquiries in Newfoundland indicate that OLD COLONY was widely sold there and in Labrador in the 1930's. Regarded to be very scarce.

OLD COLONY two-piece box in the Burningham collection. Blue label with white print. It was originally bought in Labrador in the early 1930's at a Hudson's Bay store.

(a) R-12,16

(b) R-12,16 Y-20

(c) R-12,16

CIL has a sample of E2b R 16 loaded with smokeless powder.

E 3 RELIANCE



Loaded shells exported in the 1932-1949 period. Regarded as rare. R-12 From CIL collection.

It would be of interest to note here that these shells which were exported to South America are as rare there as they are here.

E 4 RIVAL



Exported to various South American countries. Regarded as rare. R-12,16 (CIL collection.) A 20 gauge was supposed to have been made.

E 5 ARMERIA AMERICANA



(a)



(b)



(c)

This yellow .410 gauge shell can only be identified when taken out of a branded box.

This was a South American export brand, mainly to Cuba. Sold as primed empties. There are samples in the CIL museum.

(a)-R-12,16 Y-20

(b)-Y-28,32

(c)-Y-.410

E 6 for EVANS, THORNTON & CO., CALLE Defensa 465, Buenos Aires.



case wall print

R-12 (CIL collection)



PROCENDENCIA BRITANICA
FABRICADO ESPECIALMENTE PARA
EVANS THORNTON Y CIA.

Above shown in J.L. Rubio's catalog, in gauges 12,16,20, 24,32,36, all red colored. Loaded with smokeless powder. Description is "Cartucho propietario, fabricado para Argentina (Perdis y Maritena)."

E 7



MARCA

Gavão
REGISTRADA

Case wall print.

R-12
(CIL collection)

E 8



M



R

Case wall print.

R-12
(CIL collection)

Exported to Brazil. There is a loading record of this brand for January 23, 1930. Listed in Spanish language catalog of the 1930's in gauges 12,16,20,24,28, 32,36.

Made for Tracy Bros. Ltd. of Bogota, Columbia. Also sold in Cuba. First loading record is April, 1929. Listed in Spanish language catalog in same gauges as E7.

E 9 EXPORT



This was the standard headstamp for most of the export brands and apparently the shells could be purchased without case wall print. Illustrated in CIL catalog No.18(domestic) and described as "another shell developed for foreign markets".

R-10,12,16,20,28

E 10



ARMINIUS

Case wall print

Status of this shell is uncertain and requires confirmation. It has been shown in some advertising material dating from the 1930's. No specimen showing this headstamp has been reported at the time of writing.



An unusual trademark from a Spanish language catalogue in the collection of Jose Luis Rubio. Of particular interest is the legend "Fabricacion Britanica".

E 11 REGAL



Regal

Case wall print

An export item of the 1930s and not related to the domestic REGAL, see D7. A REGAL shell was listed but not illustrated in Spanish language catalogs.

R-16

(CIL collection)

E 12 SETTER

(a)
R-12(b)
R-12(c)
R-12

The SETTER is an interesting and little known series. This brand was originally intended for Latin American export in the 1930-40 period, though it has lately been established that some varieties were placed on the domestic market. Numbers have appeared in British Columbia, mainly in 32 gauge. There are stories about SETTER in .410 gauge being shot at skeet clubs in that Province in past years. Enquiries on the East Coast indicate that SETTER was a well known brand in Newfoundland and Labrador in the mid-1930's. The accompanying photo shows a SETTER box with an "export" type label, but possibly this was sold in Canada since the gauge 36, has been over stamped .410 to conform to domestic usage. The CIL collection contains a dummy sample of E 12d in 12 gauge.

(a)
R-12, 28, 32SETTER
SMOKELESS
Case wall print(e)
SETTER
SMOKELESS
Case wall print

18
C O N T R A C T S

C 1 For Wm. Gurd & Co., London, Ont. (1888-1923)



The origin of this shell is still unknown although for some years it has been attributed to the Dominion Cartridge Co. . It does have a resemblance in construction to the TRAP. Note the double imprints. Black case in 12 ga.

C 2 HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY



R-12

The date of introduction of this brand is unknown to us. It was discontinued in 1938 and now is extremely rare. A specimen in the Krevosheia collection has a copper primer in a flat battery pocket and a DUCO finished case. From this we could speculate that this shell dates from c.1927-29.



Brass type

C 3 SIMPSON'S SEARS

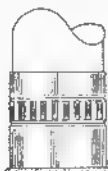


Claret-12

Although of modern vintage(1955-60) the J.C. HIGGINS brand shells are already seldom encountered. They were available in popular shot sizes and only in 12 gauge.



Topwad sample



J.C. HIGGINS brass. Identical to WOODWARD'S (C4).

C 4 WOODWARD'S STORES LTD.

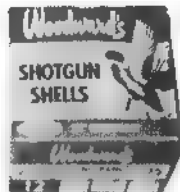


Claret-12

Produced from 1955 to about 1960, this is another contract brand with a short life and low survival rate, at least in most parts of the country. Available only in 12 gauge.



Topwad sample



COLLECTORS- 1967 cartridge list available. Send 25¢ in stamps to:
Cliff Schisler, R.R.3, Orillia, Ont. Phone 325-2413

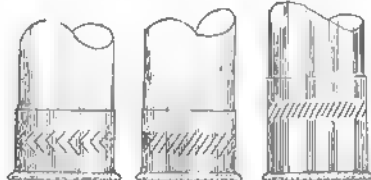
C 5 T. EATON CO. LTD.



The Eaton's brand was brought out in the late 1920's and discontinued in the late 1950's. The oldest Eaton's box known to us has the 1927 DUCO patent date. They were offered in heavy and long range loads in 12 gauge, in most popular shot sizes. There were a variety of brass heights and corrugations.



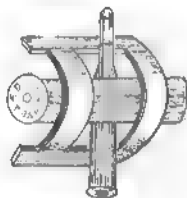
Topwad sample



(a)

(b)

(c)



WANTED FOR MY COLLECTION

CANADIAN MADE CARTRIDGES-SHOTSHELLS & METALLICS.

BOXES, POSTERS, CATALOGUES AND RELATED MATERIAL.

WILDCAT CARTRIDGES, BOOKS AND INFORMATION.

NICK KREVOSHEIA
10213-92 ST.,
EDMONTON - ALBERTA
PH-403-422-1241

Among the .410 shells exists a variety of headstamps, case lengths, colors and case construction. These shells are broken down into six variations for convenient study.

The red-colored .410s are found in $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", $2\frac{1}{2}$ " and 3" lengths with variations in case construction, primers and headstamps.

The blue-colored shells are very scarce with fired shells usually found. CIL obtained some blue paper from the Peters Cartridge Co. sometime in the 1930's and it is thought that this paper was used to make small quantities of shells headstamped M1c. These shells have been noticed with faint case wall print similar to that on Peters shells. The words "HIGH VELOCITY" were barely discernable on one shell.

Samples of M1f were reported taken from a CANUCK branded box. A recently found box of 3" shells is branded IMPERIAL in yellow print on a purple background. This box contained the notice shown below. The back of this notice is marked "NOT FINISHED IN DUCO". The box is coded 1943 and has the DUCO patent dates of 1927 and 1930. The shells have a domed nickelled primer in a flat battery pocket and appear to be of Remington manufacture.



(a)
R- $2\frac{1}{4}$ "



(b)
R- $2\frac{1}{4}$ "



(c)
R-same as (a)



(d)
R



Brass of a, b, c



(e)
R, BLU, P



$2\frac{1}{2}$ "



$2\frac{1}{2}$ "



$2\frac{1}{2}$ "



3"

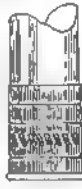
Brass types of (e)



(f)
BLU

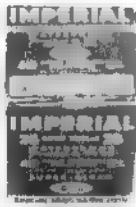


$2\frac{1}{2}$ "



3"

Brass of (f)



NOTICE

Due to wartime conditions and in order to supply our customers, it has been necessary to purchase the shell cases used in these loads.

The purchaser is assured that the load, power and functioning of these shells is to the same standard as our former production.

CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Dominion Ammunition Limited

Notice from IMPERIAL box.



Dominion Cartridge Co., Brownsburg, Que.. Main office in 1908.

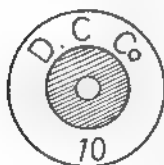


The original plant at Brownsburg c.1914. Lower building burned in 1920.

Photographs courtesy of Canadian Industries Limited.

MISCELLANEOUS

M 2 ALL BRASS

(a)
10,12(b)
16(c)
10,12,16(d)
.410

The all brass shells in gauges 10,12 and 16 were discontinued in 1921 and are now rapidly becoming scarce. The most common is M2a. The .410 gauge was discontinued in 1931 and is the only factory loaded all brass shell noted. It is found with two crimp styles, the rolled crimp as in M2a and the rose petal crimp as in M2f.

Case lengths : 10 gauge- 2-5/8" & 2-7/8"
12 gauge- 2-5/8" & 2-3/4"
16 gauge- 2 1/2"
.410 1-7/8" loaded.

The most common of these shells are:
10 gauge 2-7/8" & 12 gauge 2-5/8"



(a)



(f)

In addition to the all brass shotshells are the following revolver and rifle cartridges loaded with shot:

CALIBER	POWDER	SIZE OF SHOT
RIMFIRE		
.22 Long	black and Lesmoke	No.12
.32 Long	black	No.10
CENTER FIRE		
.38 S.&W.	black	No.10
.42 Mauser	black	No.6
.44/40	black	No.7 & 7 1/2
.44/40 I.X.L.	black	No.7 & 7 1/2
.57 Snider	black	BB,2,4,6

M 3 INDUSTRIAL



R 8



Introduced in 1947 for breaking up clinker accumulations in kilns. Head is double re-inforced and may be so made to prevent use in sporting 8 gauge guns. Loaded with a 3 oz. slug delivering 8,900 foot lbs. energy.

M 4 FLARE (MILITARY)



R 10



sample topwad

LOT 23

4/51

T W H

Case wall print

M 5 MORTAR BOOSTER 2"



R 28

2 IN. M.L. MORTAR

55 GR BALLISTITE

MK 11 C. I. L./C

case wall print

M 6 MORTAR BOOSTER 3"



R 12



sample topwad

3 IN. M.L. MORTAR

91 GR. HERO. BLMM

MK.1 C.S.F./C

case wall print

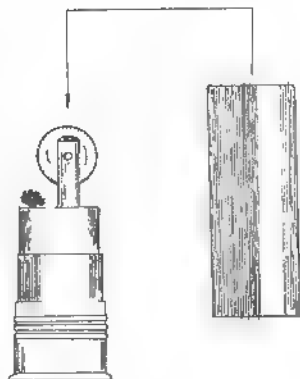
M 7 AIR RIFLE SHOT DISPENSERSPECIAL CHILLED AIR RIFLE SHOT

225 Pellets in a tube—100 tubes in a case. Also supplied in 1 pound packages—
1/2 and 2 1/2 pound bags.

The above cut showing a Dominion air rifle shot dispenser is from catalog #21. It is included here because of its close resemblance to a shotshell.

M 8 CIGARETTE LIGHTER

Used for advertising promotion in the mid-1920's, these lighters were made by Imperial Chemical Industries, Birmingham, England. They bear a remarkable resemblance to Dominion shotshells of the period. The brass top, which represents the "case", is painted red; the "top-wad" is a green decal. A rare item.

M9 WINDOW DISPLAY SHELLS

Window display shells were provided in limited numbers to company salesmen and some dealer outlets. Although little research has been done on these, it seems safe to say that the survival rate has been poor.

J. Hatter kindly supplied descriptions of a number of window display shells in his collection:

IMPERIAL--headstamp #D8b--copper primer, flat BP, red case, 12 gauge, 2-5/8", not finished in Duco.
Topwad--LONG RANGE SMOKELESS DIAMOND.

IMPERIAL--as above, but with Duco finish and flat primer.
MAXUM---headstamp #D14a, Nickelled primer, flat BP, red Duco finished case. Case printing--DOMINION MAXUM LONG RANGE. Topwad--LONG RANGE SMOKELESS.

CANUCK-- headstamp #D9b. Nickelled primer, rolled battery pocket. Red, Duco finished case.
Topwad--HEAVY LOAD SMOKELESS.



A heavy-card, hinged, full color poster, circa 1927-30.
(Kroevick collection)



Colored plaster trademark in plaque form, in the C-I-L museum. Distributed to major dealer outlets in the 1920's. About a dozen are known to have survived.



ARTHUR AVERY

collector of

BALLARD and MARLIN RIFLES
Cartridges, Shotshells and Antiques

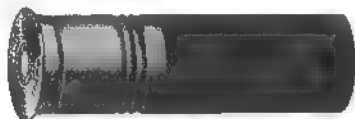
BOX 132

FT. McMURRAY, ALBERTA

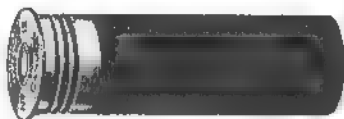
TELEPHONE-403-743-2355



VARIOS CARTUCHOS DE FABRICACIÓN "DOMINION"



IMPERIAL: El mejor tipo de Cartucho que se fabrica. Alta velocidad. Largo Alcance. Pólvoras: Smokeless \diamond Diamond, Oval.
Calibres: 12, 16, 20.



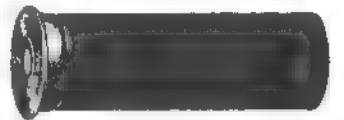
CANUCK: La mejor calidad de bronce de media altura. Cargas normales y de alta velocidad. Pólvoras: Smokeless \diamond Diamond, Dupont.
Calibres: 12, 16, 20, 28.



METEOR Ó REGAL: Precio módico. Diseñado para tirar en la trampa. Pólvora: Sin humo, escogida especialmente.



GAVIÃO: Fabricado para el mercado Brasileño. Pólvora: Negra, de buena calidad.
Calibres: 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36.



BÚFALO: Fabricado especialmente para la Costa del Pacífico. Pólvora: Sin humo, de buena calidad.
Calibres: 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36.

NOTA: Gavião, Búfalo y Cartuchos Proprietarios son fabricados también en media-carga (pólvora sin humo ó negra), y vacíos, con ó sin tacos de fieltro y de cartón.

Todos los cartuchos cargados en la fábrica son acabados al "DUCO" y son cargados de municiones retemplados.

PARA MÁS DETALLES, VÉASE EL CATÁLOGO

A page from a Spanish language catalog of the early 1930's, showing the brands and gauges available. All shells shown are red colored.

TIPS ON DATING SHOTSHELLS

Eventually most collectors will want to establish the age of their shells, especially the older or more interesting ones. A good key to dating would be to follow this procedure and notes:

HEADSTAMP-brand name
FINISH-wax or DUCO
PRIMER-material, copper, brass or nickelled
BATTERY POCKET-flat or rolled

The HEADSTAMP will quickly establish the approximate date of manufacture, however one must keep in mind that the exact date is nearly impossible to determine. The best one can hope for is an approximate one covering a period of a few years. The FINISH will help mainly in the older established brands in continuous production for several decades such as CANUCK. The PRIMER material helps to some extent. Also knowing the size will help. The No.3A was a copper primer smaller in diameter than the present No.3B which was introduced in 1916. Earliest primers were made of copper, then to brass and in 1929, when Super Clean priming was introduced, the brass primers were nickelled for identification. The BATTERY POCKET yields another clue. The flat type was discontinued in 1927 in favor of the sturdier rolled type. It must be remembered that when changes were made such as primer material, these changes were gradual over a period of two or three years, permitting a certain amount of overlapping. It is only good business to use up existing stocks of materials.

An example would be a shell headstamped DOMINION CANUCK MADE IN CANADA having a brass primer with a rolled battery pocket with a plain wax finish. The MADE IN CANADA would indicate a date of 1927 or slightly later. The brass primer would point to a date prior to 1929, while the rolled battery pocket points to 1927 when the flat variety was discontinued. The wax finish points to pre-1927 days. Each of these clues is small and can be confusing and contradictory. But together they give a pretty good idea as to when this shell was made. The date would likely be 1928 or 1929. The MADE IN CANADA is conclusive proof of post 1927 manufacture as does the rolled battery pocket. The wax finish is confusing but it stands to reason that the shell was from old pre-DUCO tubes. Likely the very next batch was water-proofed with DUCO. Another example is a shell headstamped DOMINION CANUCK having a brass primer with rolled battery pocket and DUCO finish and new crimp. Answer? Simply CIL using forty-year old tools immediately after WW2 when equipment and machinery was in short supply. I have purchased a box of these shells as late as 1963.

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TIPS TO BEGINNING COLLECTORS

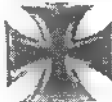
Cleaning, preservation and storage of shotshells.

Often older shotshells are received in a dirty condition. These can usually be cleaned up to look respectable by the following method: smear lightly with vaseline, rub in and wipe off with a tissue or soft cloth. This not only cleans but darkens slightly faded shells. This method is not too successful on shells waterproofed with DUCO. Box labels can also be cleaned by this method.

After cleaning it is desirable to preserve the shell. An excellent method is to use Saran Wrap. This is especially desirable for shells with case wall print. With practice one can cover a shell quickly and without wrinkles.

Finally the shells should be stored in a suitable cabinet both for protection and convenience. Suitable cabinets available at the hardware departments of department stores are those with either a metal frame with plastic drawers, all plastic or of all metal construction. A convenient size is one measuring 10" x 12" with twenty-four drawers measuring 2-3/4" x 5-3/4" x 1 1/4". These drawers will accept shells up to 10 gauge in size and will store 3 1/2 shells. A good all metal cabinet suitable for shotshells up to 4 gauge is one with four drawers measuring 5" x 6" x 1 1/4". These cabinets sell for \$5-\$9 and are a worthwhile investment as they will store up to one hundred shells in a relatively small, convenient and portable cabinet.

All brass shells are usually received quite dirty and sometimes look as though they are beyond cleaning. A simple and effective method of cleaning these shells is one of salt in water and vinegar. Dissolve coarse salt in a solution of three parts water to one part vinegar and have about a 1/4" of salt on the bottom. For better and quicker results the water should be warm to hasten the dissolution of the salt. Stir until most of the salt is in solution. Immerse shells in the solution for several days, preferably for about a week. Check them each day, stirring the solution each time. The brass will turn reddish and when removed should be washed in clean warm water and then rubbed down lightly with fine steel wool and finally polished with Brasso and a soft cloth. A stiff brush will clean up the headstamp. One would have to experiment with the proportions of the above solution and the length of time the shells should be left in the solution. There is no hard and fast rule. No doubt some of the commercial case cleaners would be as effective.



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"ONLY CATALOG IN CANADA"

31
PRIMERS

The first primer for D.C.Co. shotshells appears to have been the No.2. This primer was also used to prime the all brass shells. It is not known when the first battery pocket primer for smokeless powder shells, the No.3A, was introduced. The No.3A was succeeded by the No.3B in 1916. There is also a question as to whether or not there was a No.3 primer. Perhaps one of the first smokeless powder primers was so designated. The main differences between the 3A and the 3B was that the latter is shorter and larger in diameter as well as being hotter. The No.3A was made of copper while the 3B is known only in brass. At the time of its introduction, the No.3B was acclaimed as being the hottest and strongest primer made in North America. The 3B has remained unchanged to this day except for designation and underwent a transformation in 1929 when the potassium chlorate priming was replaced by a Super Clean compound which was non-corrosive.

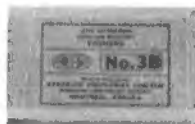
The No.3A was packaged in round tins of 250 and in the more common packs of 100 in pastewood boxes labelled with a red band with white print and D emblem in a white diamond on a khaki band. The No.3B was similarly packaged but with a label having white print on a blue band with the D emblem on a yellow band. During WW2 the No.3B was packaged in a plain box having an orange label with black print.



No.3A box. White print on red band. D emblem on khaki band.



No.3B box. White print on blue label. D emblem on a yellow band.



No.3B box made during WW2. Orange label with black print.

ADDITION TO FOUR-TEN GAUGE SHELLS (M1)

Another variation of M1c is a red colored shell primed with a nickelled primer with corrugated brass which is $\frac{1}{4}$ " high. Case length is $2\frac{1}{2}$ ".

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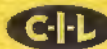
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CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Centennial Booklet on Shotshells—4½" x 7"—1 page—B/W—T-4071
Prepared by Ronalds-Reynolds & Company, Toronto Office